Hillsdale Community Schools
Board of Education

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
March 16, 2026

I. Call to Order

President Sumnar called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. which was held in the Hillsdale High School library.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Recognition of Guests

Members Present
Kathy Petersen
Jeff Kunkel
Matt Gordon
Nicole Hoffman
Chris Sumnar
Rebecca Portteus

Members Absent
Dan LaRue

Administration Present
Ted Davis, Superintendent
Lara Baker, HHS Principal
Katie Stebelton, DMS Principal
Jeremy LaFollette, Maintenance Director
Emily Hale, Food Service Director
Allison Wirick, Bailey Early Childhood Director

Guests

Jean Michael	Connie Kuenzer	Kim Bianco
Leslie Powell	Joann Fisher	

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes - February 16, 2026 – regular board meeting

B. Finance

B1. Treasurer's Receipts

Treasurer's receipts for February 2026 are as follows:

General Fund	$2,148,999.46
Building & Site	$ 257,798.77
Food Service	$ 82,895.64
Activity	$ 23,649.22

B2. Bills Payable

Expenditures for February 2026 are as follows:

General Fund	$1,329,741.87
Building & Site	$ 206.25
Food Service	$ 94,004.46
Activity	$ 20,777.32

Moved by Hoffman supported by LaRue to approve the consent agenda as presented

6 Ayes 0 Nays Motion passed

V. Communications

A. Written - NA

B. Public - NA

VI. Information & Proposals from Board, Superintendent & Staff

A. Committee Reports

Policy 2/25

Instruction & Assessment 3/9

Building & Site 3/13

B. Superintendent's Report

- Haedyn Borck - Gier EA - resignation 3/6
- Shawn Caldwell - DMS teacher - resignation 3/6
- Update on Building Project
- Negotiations Update
- Director of Title I Programs, Curriculum & Instruction
- Karrie Hughes - Gier teacher - retirement 6/30
- Playground - DMS
- Curriculum update for Math, Science and English
- Non Homestead Millage Information
- Naming rights committee update
- Brittney Townsend - Gier EA - FMLA 3/23- 6 weeks

VII. Old/New Business

A. Personnel

1. Kim Bianco - Director of Title I Programs, Curriculum & Instruction

Moved by Petersen supported by Hoffman to hire Kim Bianco for the Director of Title I Programs, Curriculum & Instruction.

6 Ayes 0 Nays Motion passed

B. Board Affairs

1. Kiwanis Club of Hillsdale - Hornet Robotics Donation

Moved by Hoffman supported by Portteus to accept $500.00 from the Kiwanis Club of Hillsdale for Hornet Robotics

6 Ayes 0 Nays Motion passed

2. HCCF Donation
   Moved by Kunkel supported by Petersen to accept $4,476.15 from Hillsdale County Community Foundation for various projects.
   6 Ayes 0 Nays Motion passed

3. Food Service Management Company Renewal
   Moved by Hoffman supported by Petersen to approve the 2026-2027 Food Service Agreement with Compass Group - Chartwells Division.
   6 Ayes 0 Nays Motion passed

4. R & D Controls, LLC - Hornet Robotics Donation
   Moved by Petersen supported by Hoffman to accept $1,000.00 from R & D Controls, LLC for Hornet Robotics.
   6 Ayes 0 Nays Motion passed

5. DMS Playground Equipment
   Moved by Gordon supported by Portteus to approve the bid with Midwest Recreation in the amount of $93,155.79 for DMS playground equipment.
   6 Ayes 0 Nays Motion passed

6. Asbestos Abatement
   Moved by Kunkel supported by Portteus to approve the bid with Total Environmental Services in the amount of $84,600.00 for asbestos removal.
   6 Ayes 0 Nays Motion passed

7. 6th grade Science Curriculum Adoption - Cereal City
   Moved by Hoffman supported by Portteus to adopt the 6th Grade Cereal City Science Curriculum.
   6 Ayes 0 Nays Motion passed

8. 8th grade English Curriculum Adoption - Animal Farm
   Moved by Hoffman supported by Portteus to approve the book Animal Farm as part of the 8th grade English Curriculum.
   6 Ayes 0 Nays Motion passed

VIII. Addenda

A. Public Comment – Leslie Powell & Joann Fisher - spoke regarding an issue at Gier
B. Board Member Comment - R Portteus thanked the parents for bringing the issue to the Board's attention, Artrageous was wonderful.
   C Sumnar - remote learning should attract home schooled students, the play pulled in many homeschooled students.

IX. Adjournment

President Sumnar adjourned the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Rebecca Portteus, Secretary
Hillsdale Board of Education
JMM 3/25/2026

Rebecca Portteus